Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 10043 061153Z ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 PPS-01 /034 W

-----061302Z 082694 /42

R 061208Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1462
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 10043

LIMDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4 TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR

SUBJ: BREZHNEV VISIT TO FRANCE: HEALTH QUESTION?

REF: PARIS 8141

- 1. SOVIET EMBASSY SOURCE (PROTECT THROUGHOUT) CONFIRMS QUAI REPORTS THAT DE GUIRINGAUD NOW INVITED TO MOSCOW JUNE 6 FOR PREPARATION BREZHNEV VISIT TO FRANCE. INTERESTINGLY, EXACT DATE FOR BREZHNEV HIMSELF, HAS STILL NOT BEEN SET AND, SOURCE BELIEVES, WILL NOT BE SET UNTIL DE GUIRINGAUD'S TRIP. IF BREZHNEV IS TO COME HERE TOWARD THE END OF JUNE OR EARLY IN JULY AS NOW EXPECTED, THIS WILL OBVIOUSLY LEAVE LITTLE TIME FOR LAST-MINUTE JOCKEYING BETWEEN DE GUIRINGAUD'S MISSION AND THE MAIN EVENT.
- 2. ASKED WHY SOVIETS WERE CUTTING IT SO FINE, SOURCE CONFIDENTIAL

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SAID,--WITH REITERATED REQUEST THAT HE BE PROTECTED--THAT REAL REASON NOW WAS BREZHNEV'S HEALTH. INDEED, IT WAS EVEN STILL "SLIGHTLY POSSIBLE" THAT BREZHNEV MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT AT ALL. HOWEVER, SOVIET EMBASSY WAS PROCEEDING ON THE "FIRM ASSUMPTION" THAT THE VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT BREZHNEV'S HEALTH HAS BEEN CITED TO US BY SOVIET REP, EVEN ON VERY DISCREET BACKGROUND BASIS, AS A REASON FOR THE CONTINUING DELAY IN SETTING AN EXACT DATE. IT IMPLIES AGAIN THAT HE MAY BE ABLE TO SCHEDULE MAJOR EFFORTS ONLY UPON QUITE SHORT NOTICE.

GAMMON

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Message Attributes

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Subject: BREZHNEV VISIT TO FRANCE: HEALTH QUESTION?

TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, (DE GUIRINGAUD, LOUIS), (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)

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